

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/594,973

Examiner

BAOQUOC N. TO

Applicant(s)

MUKAIDA ET AL.

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/08/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-10 (renumber as 1-9).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>07/08/2010</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Office Action dated on 03/19/2010, applicants amend the application as follow:

Claims amended: 7

Claims canceled: None

Claims withdrawn: 11-20

Claims pending: 1-20

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tsuyoshi Nakamura, on 07/07/2010, with Limited Recognition No. L0396.

Please amend the application as follow:

1. (Currently amended) An information recording method [[which is]] using a file system managing files hierarchically by the files having information and a directory which s a storage place [[a plurality of]] the files, wherein [[a]] the file system which writes the information in and reads the information from a recording medium per cluster [[predetermined unit is used]], comprising:

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[[and]] recording a predetermined information about a directory entry including an address of a target sector area and a data of the directory entry is first recorded, using a processor, in a work sector area for a backup purpose before performing primary recording of the data of the directory entry to the target sector area, wherein the work area is apart of a boot sector, and [[as well as]]

recording the number of mounting of the file system[[is further recorded]], using the processor, in the work sector area,

wherein upon the completion of writing of the data in the target sector area, the work sector area will be cleared.

2. (Currently amended) The information recording method according to claim 1, wherein the work sector area comprises [[two]] a plurality of sectors, and wherein the number of mounting is recorded in a [[first]] one sector of the work sector area, and [[information contents to be recorded are]] the data of the directory is recorded in [[a second]] another sector of the work sector area.

3. (Currently amended) The information recording method according to claim 2, wherein [[the work sector is located in a work sector area having a plurality of sectors, and]] the work sector area is determined when the file system is mounted.

4. (Canceled)

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5. (Original) The information recording method according to claim 4, wherein the file system is a FAT file system.

6. (Currently amended) A device for recording and/or reproducing information, wherein the information recording method according to any one of claims 1, 2, 3[, 4] or 5 is used.

7. (Currently amended) An information recording method using a file system managing files hierarchically by the files having information and a directory which is a storage place of [[a plurality of]] the files, wherein [[a]] the file system [[which]] writes the information in and reads the information from a recording medium per cluster predetermined unit is used, comprising:

[[and]] writing a first data of a first directory entry[[is written]], using a processor, in [[the]] a cluster; [[predetermined unit]] and

writing a backup data of the first directory entry [[is written]], using a processor, in the cluster [[predetermined unit]] such that the first data and the backup data written in the cluster [[predetermined units]] are separate from each other by a predetermined offset, [[and]]

wherein the backup data includes an entire content of the first directory entry, and wherein the predetermined offset is half size of the cluster.

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8. (Original) The information recording method according to claim 7, wherein the file system is a FAT file system.

9. (Currently amended) The information recording method according to claim 7, wherein [[the predetermined offset is half of the predetermined unit, and the information about the directory is doubly written]] the first data and backup data are written in the cluster of a work sector.

10. (Previously Presented) A device for recording and/or reproducing information, wherein the information recording method according to any one of claims 7, 8 or 9 is used.

11-20. (Canceled)

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3 and 5-10 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, none of the cited art alone in combination either teach or suggest "recording the number of mounting of the file system is further recorded, using the processor, in the work sector area, wherein upon the completion of writing of the data in the target sector area, the work sector area will be cleared."

As to claim 7, none of the cited art alone or in combination either teach or suggest “writing a backup data of the first directory entry is written, using a processor, in the cluster predetermined unit such that the first data and the backup data written in the cluster predetermined units are separate from each other by a predetermined offset, and wherein the backup data includes an entire content of the first directory entry, and wherein the predetermined offset is half size of the cluster.”

Depended claims 2-3, 5-6 and 8-10 are allowed under the same reason as to claims 1 and 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is at 571-272-4041, or unofficial fax number for the purpose of discussion (571) 273-4041 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, John Breene can be reached at 571-272-4107.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follow:

(571) 273-8300 [Official Communication]

/Baoquoc N To/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162